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Security Council

Fifty-first Year

Provisional

3642nd Meeting
Tuesday, 19 March 1996, 1.30 p.m.
New York

President:	Mr. Legwaila	(Botswana)
Members:	Chile	Mr. Eguiguren
	China	Mr. He Yafei
	Egypt	Mr. Abderahman
	France	Mr. Thiebaud
	Germany	Mr. Eitel
	Guinea-Bissau	Mr. Sane
	Honduras	Mr. Rendón Barnica
	Indonesia	Mr. Wisnumurti
	Italy	Mr. Cardi
	Poland	Mr. Chudy
	Republic of Korea	Mr. Chun
	Russian Federation	Mr. Fedotov
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Ms. Wilmshurst
	United States of America	Mr. Gnehm

Agenda

The situation between Iraq and Kuwait

96-85302 (E)

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The meeting was called to order at 1.30 p.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation between Iraq and Kuwait

The President: The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Security Council is meeting in accordance with the understanding reached in the course of its prior consultations.

I should like to draw the attention of the members of the Council to the following documents: S/1996/182, letter dated 9 March 1996 from the Executive Chairman of the Special Commission established by the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 9 (b) (i) of Security Council resolution 687 (1991) addressed to the President of the Security Council; S/1996/183, letter dated 12 March 1996 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Executive Chairman of the Special Commission established by the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 9 (b) (i) of Security Council resolution 687 (1991); and S/1996/204, letter dated 17 March 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council, transmitting the text of a letter dated the same date from the Deputy Prime Minister of Iraq addressed to the President of the Security Council.

Following consultations among members of the Security Council, I have been authorized to make the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council has noted with growing concern that the incident described in the letter of 9 March 1996 from the Executive Chairman of the Special Commission to the President of the Security Council (S/1996/182) and the further incident on 11 March 1996 in which an inspection team was again not allowed immediate and unconditional access to a site designated by the Commission under its resolution 687 (1991) were followed by further such incidents on 14 and 15 March 1996. In all of these cases access was subsequently granted only after unacceptable delays.

"The Security Council reiterates its full support for the Special Commission in the conduct of its inspections and the other tasks entrusted to it by the Council.

"The Security Council notes the letter of 17 March 1996 to its President from the Deputy Prime Minister of Iraq (S/1996/204). It recalls that, under paragraph 9 (b) (i) of section C of Security Council resolution 687 (1991), Iraq is required to permit 'immediate on-site inspection of Iraq's biological, chemical and missile capabilities, based on Iraq's declarations and the designation of any additional locations by the Special Commission itself'. By its resolution 707 (1991), the Council also expressly demanded that Iraq 'allow the Special Commission, the International Atomic Energy Agency and their inspection teams immediate, unconditional and unrestricted access to any and all areas, facilities, equipment, records and means of transportation which they wish to inspect'. The obligation was furthermore confirmed in the Commission's plan for ongoing monitoring and verification which was approved by the Security Council in resolution 715 (1991); in this context the Council recalls the notes from the Secretary-General of 21 July 1993 (S/26127) and 1 December 1993 (S/26825).

"The Security Council considers that Iraq's delays in permitting the inspection team recently in Iraq access to the sites concerned constitute clear violations by Iraq of the provisions of resolutions 687 (1991), 707 (1991) and 715 (1991). The Council demands that the Government of Iraq allow the Special Commission inspection teams immediate, unconditional and unrestricted access to all sites designated by the Commission for inspection in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the Council."

This statement will be issued as a document of the Security Council under the symbol S/PRST/1996/11.

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The Security Council will remain seized of the matter.

The meeting rose at 1.35 p.m.